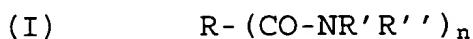


CLAIMS

Sub A1
1. Medium for the culturing and specific identification of yeasts, comprising a chromogenic or fluorogenic substrate which can be hydrolyzed by an enzyme of the hexosaminidase family, characterized in that the medium also comprises at least one compound which selectively inhibits the hexosaminidase activity of *C. tropicalis*.

Sub D10
2. Medium according to Claim 1, characterized in that the selective inhibitor compound is an amide of formula (I):



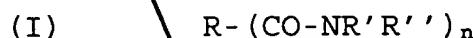
in which, firstly, either R, R' and R'', independently of each other, consist of:

15 - a hydrogen atom,
- a saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or cyclic hydrocarbon-based chain optionally comprising at least one hetero atom,
or each of the radicals R and/or R' and/or R''

20 together form a cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain optionally comprising at least one hetero atom,

and, secondly, n is an integer greater than or equal to 1.

25 3. Medium according to Claim 1, characterized in that the selective inhibitor compound is an amide of formula (I):



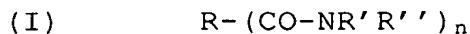
in which, firstly, either R, R' and R'', independently of each other, consist of:

- a hydrogen atom,
- a saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or cyclic hydrocarbon-based chain optionally interrupted by at least one hetero atom,

35 or each of the radicals R and/or R' and/or R'' together form a cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon-based chain optionally interrupted by at least one hetero atom,

and, secondly, n is an integer greater than or equal to 1.

4. Medium according to ~~Claims 1 to 3~~ characterized in that the selective inhibitor compound is an amide of formula (I):



in which, firstly, R, R' and R'', independently of each other, consist of:

- a hydrogen atom,
- 10 - an aliphatic hydrocarbon-based chain,
and, secondly, n is equal to 1 or 2.

5. Medium according to ~~Claims 1 to 4~~ characterized in that the selective inhibitor compound is an acetamide.

15 6. Medium according to ~~Claims 1 to 5~~ characterized in that it comprises an activator which is specific for the hexosaminidase enzyme of *C. albicans*.

7. Medium according to Claim 6, characterized in
20 that the activator which is specific for the hexosaminidase enzyme is N-acetylglucosamine.

8. Medium according to ~~the preceding claims~~, characterized in that it comprises a mixture of selective inhibitor compounds.

25 9. Medium according to Claim 8, characterized in that the mixture of selective inhibitor compounds consists of acetamide and formamide.

Sub 3
INS 32
10. Medium according to ~~Claims 1 and 9~~ characterized in that the medium is gelled and comprises, per liter:

	- peptones or a mixture of peptones	0.01-40 g
	- yeast extract	0.01-40 g
	- glucose (source of carbon)	0-10 g
	- phosphate buffer (pH between 5	
35	and 8.5)	2.5-100 mM
	- 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-N-acetyl-	
	β -D-glucosaminide (Biosynth)	$20-600 \times 10^{-6}$ M
	- acetamide	0.01-20 g
	- bacterial inhibitor	0-20 g

- agar Claim 9 11-20 g
11. Medium according to Claims 9 and 10, furthermore comprising N-acetylglucosamine at a concentration of 1.0 g/l.
- 5 12. Medium according to Claims 10 and 12, furthermore comprising formamide at a concentration of 0.5 g/l.
- MM Ag* 13. Medium for the detection and specific identification of yeasts, characterized in that it comprises two substrates, a first chromogenic or fluorogenic substrate which can be hydrolyzed by an enzyme from the hexosaminidase family, and a second chromogenic or fluorogenic substrate which can be hydrolyzed by an enzyme from the glucosidase family.
EWS 83
- 10 14. Medium according to Claim 13, in which each substrate consists of a specific portion of the enzyme and of a marker portion, characterized in that the marker portion of the first substrate is different from the marker portion of the second substrate.
- 15 15. Medium according to either of Claims 13 and 14, characterized in that it comprises a hexosaminidase activator and/or inhibitor.
- EWS 24* 20 16. Medium according to Claim 15, characterized in that the activator consists of a hexosamine and/or a hexosaminidine and/or in that the inhibitor takes the characteristics of any one of Claims 1 to 12.
- 25 17. Medium according to any one of Claims 13 to 16, characterized in that the hexosaminidinase substrate consists of an indoxyl derivative and/or in that the glucosidase substrate consists of an indoxyl derivative.
- 30 18. Medium according to any one of Claims 1 to 17, characterized in that the medium is liquid or gelled.
- 35 19. Microbiological analysis process for selectively identifying the *C. albicans* and/or *C. tropicalis* yeast and/or for differentiating *C. albicans* and *C. tropicalis* yeasts, characterized in that the sample to be analyzed is placed directly in

contact with at least one identification medium according to any one of ~~Claims 1 to 12.~~ ^{Claim 1}

Su D 5
Sub 5
D 5

20. Microbiological analysis process for detecting and selectively identifying certain species of *Candida* yeasts, which is characterized in that the sample is placed in direct contact with a medium according to either ~~of Claims 13 and 18,~~ ^{Claim 13} time is allowed for colorations to appear in the medium, and identification is made, on the basis of the differences in coloration, 10 of the *C. albicans* species from, on the one hand, the *C. guilliermondii*, *C. kefyr*, *C. lusitaniae* and/or *C. tropicalis* species, and, on the other hand, from the other *Candida* species, and of the *C. guilliermondii*, *C. kefyr*, *C. lusitaniae* and/or *C. tropicalis* species 15 from the other *Candida* species.

MS 25
MS 25

21. Process according to Claim 20, characterized in that a waiting period of between 36 and 60 hours and advantageously essentially 48 hours is allowed when the medium contains no activator or inhibitor according to 20 either of Claims 15 and 16.

22. Process according to Claim 20, characterized in that a waiting period of between 18 and 30 hours and advantageously essentially 24 hours is allowed when the medium contains an activator or an inhibitor according 25 to either of Claims 15 and 16.

23. Process according to any one of Claims 20 to ^{Claim 20} 22, characterized in that *C. albicans*, *C. guilliermondii*, *C. kefyr*, *C. lusitaniae* and/or *C. tropicalis* are identified from other *Candida* 30 species, when the medium contains:

- a hexosaminidase substrate, and/or
- a glucosidase substrate, and/or
- a hexosaminidase activator, and/or
- a hexosaminidase inhibitor.

35 24. Process according to any one of Claims 20 to ^{Claim 20} 23, characterized in that *C. albicans* is identified from *C. guilliermondii*, *C. kefyr*, *C. lusitaniae*, *C. tropicalis* and/or other *Candida* species, when the medium contains:

- a hexosaminidase substrate and a glucosidase substrate, and/or
- a hexosaminidase activator, and/or
- a hexosaminidase inhibitor.

Add
Ble

Add
DS